RUDY): (a) No separate stocks of wheat and sugar are maintained exclusively for export of wheat and sugar.

(b) It is not possible to estimate the likely quantum and value of wheat and sugar that will be exported during the current financial year as the exports would depend upon international demand and supply position, domestic demand and supply position, international and domestic prices, consumer preference and varieties traded.

(c) The export of sugar is allowed freely without any quantitative ceiling with effect from 1.4.2001. The export of wheat is also allowed freely subject to quantitative ceilings announced by Directorate General of Foreign Trade and issue of Registration-cum-Allocation Certificates (RCACs) by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). For the year 2001-2002, an export ceiling of 5 million tonnes of wheat has been announced.

Dispute Settlement Mechanism in WTO

33. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has urged the World Trade Organisation to ensure a just and fair dispute settlement mechanism so that the multilateral trading system should be rule oriented and not power oriented;

(b) whether some industrialised countries are putting pressure to bring in non-trade related issue within the discipline of WTO which is one of the causes of worry for the third world countries;

(c) if so, the reaction of the WTO in this matter; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by Government to face such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir. India stands for a rule based multilateral trading system which needs to be just and fair and should be rule oriented and not power oriented.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government is working with other like minded

developing countries in an effort to keep non-trade issues out of the disciplines of World Trade Organisation. It was possible, for instance, on the issue of labour standards to get the Doha Ministerial Conference to reaffirm the Singapore Ministerial Declaration of 1996 which *inter alia* declared that the International Labour Organization (ILO) is the competent body to deal with these standards.

Export of tea

34. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production and export of tea during 2001;

(b) the consumption of tea within the country; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned from export of tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The production and export of tea during the year 2001 is given below:

Quantity in Million Kg.

Year	Estimated Production (January—November)	Estimated Export (January—December)
2001	817.60	179.79

(b) The consumption of tea within the country during the year 2001, as estimated by Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata, was 673 Million Kg.

(c) The foreign exchange earned from export of tea during the calendar year 2001 was Rs. 1604.43 crore.